

Appl. No. 10/691,577
Amendment dated: January 9, 2006
Reply to OA of: November 17, 2005

REMARKS

This is in response to the Official Action of November 17, 2005. In the Official Action, the Examiner indicates that the application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matters identified therein. Therefore, the amendments to claims presented herein are an effort to correct the formal matters identified by the Examiner in the outstanding Official Action in order to put the application in immediate condition for allowance.

The Examiner has objected to claim 24 under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claims. In response to this objection, Applicants have canceled claim 24. As claims 25 and 26 depended from now-canceled claim 24, these claims have also been canceled.

In light of this amendment to the claim, Applicants now respectfully request that the objections to the claims be withdrawn and request favorable reconsideration and allowance of all claims pending in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

By: 
Scott A. Brairton
Registration No. 55,020

625 Slaters Lane, 4th Fl.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

SAB:cmd
A02a.wpd

January 9, 2006